

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. We need to force them to divest stations and allow one company to own only one station. Sounds harsh but it is the only way to return the airwaves to the rightful owners, the people. These stations further dilute the news by partnering with the newspapers to cover the news. What we get is what we are seeing now, no original coverage just regurgitation of the Corporate line. Thank you.